

## **ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE UPDATE**

**APRIL 1, 2005**

Members of the New Jersey ALB Cooperative Eradication Program met with City of Linden officials, on Tuesday, March 29, to discuss the tree removal process to be conducted at three locations in Linden affected by the ALB. All three sites fall within the established ALB Middlesex/Union counties quarantine zone.

City officials expressed support for the program and are working with the USDA-APHIS, NJDA and NJ Forest Service personnel to get the word out on efforts to eradicate this destructive pest from New Jersey, including participation in a direct mail campaign and placing information on the city's cable access TV station. During the meeting, City officials were assured the removed trees would be replaced as part of the reforestation effort.

As of March 31, 3,209 trees have been removed from the Middlesex/Union ALB infestation site. Of those, 501 were infested host trees and 2,708 were high-risk exposed host trees.

Crews continued removing trees this week in the residential areas of Carteret, and in the area next to the Linden Humane Society.

Currently, 11 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, NJ Forest Service are performing survey, control and regulatory activities. Nine USDA Forest Service Smokejumpers, along with 15 contracted tree climbers from Bartlett Tree Expert Company, continue to survey trees in the Middlesex/Union ALB infestation site; to date a total of 6,468 trees have been inspected.

Seven program personnel continue to perform survey and regulatory activities in the Jersey City Quarantine. As of March 27, a total of 490 trees have been inspected with no signs of ALB infestations.

Additionally, preparations are underway to conduct a bucket truck survey of approximately 30 trees located around power lines in the Jersey City quarantine area. New Jersey Public Service Electric and Gas Company, in coordination with their tree contractor, will donate one bucket truck and two operators to support the survey efforts.